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HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWS... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
THE PUNISHER 2099
I'M WEARING A BIO-THRUST EXO-SUIT... PRIMED WITH EVERY KILLING TECHNIQUE FROM THE BEST OF THE MARTIAL ARTS...
IT'S A SLUGFEST TO THE DEATH!
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Scanned By GOTHMAN

LIKE I TOLD YOU, PUNISHER, I KNOW EVERYTHING YOU'RE GONNA DO BEFORE YOU DO IT...
HE'S A GRAV-BALL VET, AN ENHANCED CYBORG WITH IMPACT HOOVES AND THE TOP INTERNAL POWER-TRAIN SYSTEM MONEY CAN BUY.
MULTI-FRACTOR'S RIGHT. ONLY I'VE STILL GOT MY OWN MIND AS WELL AS THE MARTIAL PROGRAMMING...
MUCH GOOD THAT'S DOING ME RIGHT NOW!

BUT NONE OF THOSE GREAT MASTERS WOULD BE CRAZY ENOUGH TO DO...
...THIS!
UGHH!
MY SUIT'S KINETIC ACCUMULATORS SAVED THE ENERGY FROM MY CRASH AND RECYCLED IT BACK INTO MULTI-FRACTOR'S FACE.
LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOU REALLY ARE!
I'M NOT GOOD.. I'M THE BEST!

PUNISHER, HUH...? I DON'T SEE WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT-- YOU WOULDN'T LAST TEN MINUTES ON THE FIELD.
OOOF!
SEE YOU ON THE GRID-IRON!
UUH... SUIT ACCUMULATORS ABSORBED MOST OF THE IMPACT...
...BUT IT CAN ONLY HANDLE SO MUCH.
IT'S BEGINNING TO OVERLOAD!

JAKE! I'M MONITORING YOUR SUIT!
I'M GOING TO PATCH IN OVER-RIDE...
MATT...?! WHAT THE SHOCK ARE YOU DOING CHECKING UP ON ME...? BUTT OUT! THIS IS MY SHOW!
I CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND SEE YOU PULPED!
BESIDES WHICH, IF MULTI-FRACTOR KILLS YOU, HE'LL BE COMING FOR ME NEXT!
MULTI-FRACTOR'S GREATEST SPORTING
BUT THERE'S ONE OPPONENT HE CAN'T BEAT-- HIMSELF! BUT A FEW YEARS YOUNGER...
I'M PROGRAMMING IN A DATA PACK CONTAINING MULTI-FRACTOR'S GREATEST SPORTING MOMENTS! THE MAN AT HIS PEAK!
SOUNDS GOOD... HE'LL HAVE BOTH OF US FIGHTING HIM!
REMEMBER THIS ONE IN THE '95 SUPER-LEAGUE...?

SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE A REAL DIRTY FIGHTER...
I KNOW YOU'VE PROBABLY GOT A METAL SPINE--BUT THIS WILL PUT A KINK IN IT.
AAAHH! I FELT THAT!
NOW LET'S TALK BUSINESS.. WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR...?
WHO'S THE HEAD OF THE CYBER-NOSTRA...?
I DIDN'T HEAR YOU, MULTI-FRACTOR.
TELL ME WHO MY REAL TARGET IS...

THANKS FOR THE... UUHHH! ... FACIAL... BUT...
GET STUFFED!
COME ON, FRACTOR... SAVE YOURSELF THE PAIN... I HAVE TO KNOW...
WHO'S THE SCUM FLOATING ON THIS CESSPIT OF A CITY...? TELL ME!?
STOP!
AS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC EYE, WE ORDER YOU TO HALT!

THE POLICE... I'LL HAND THIS PIECE OF SLIME OVER TO THEM...
VISITOR
HOME
WELL, WELL... IT'S THE PUNISHER--HE'S SCORED MULTI-FRACTOR, THE CYBER-NOSTRA UNDER-CAPO...
HERE HE IS, BOYS.
LOOKS LIKE WE GOT HERE JUST IN TIME.
YEAH... WE LIKE THE BAD GUY TO...
...WIN!
GIVE MULTI-FRACTOR THE HYPER-PACK... I WANT TO SEE HIM FINISH THE PUNISHER.
CORRUPT COPS... SHOULD'VE GUESSED. NO ONE IN THIS CITY STANDS FOR OLD-FASHIONED JUSTICE.
THANKS, GUYS... CYBORG SUPER-DRIVER, EH? THESE THINGS ARE ILLEGAL. IT WILL TAKE FIVE YEARS OFF MY LIFE...
...BUT IT'S WORTH IT. I'M GOING TO KILL YOU IN STYLE!
AAAGGGHHH!

NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT, JAKE... I CAN'T PATCH YOU IN A SUPER-DRIVER FROM HERE!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY THIS...
...I CAN SWING YOU LIKE A HAMMER!
UNREAL, MAN! THIS IS EFFORTLESS!
FLY LIKE LIGHTNING, CRASH LIKE THUNDER!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

DANNY'S DEEP THOUGHTS

When Mark Gruenwald asked me to write this column for this week's Bullpen Bulletins, I started to write a pithy little — okay, a really long — essay on Spider-Man and the comics industry in general. I put myself to sleep.

Instead, I figured I'd just give you what you really want: hot gossip. So read on and discover ...

THE TOP TEN THINGS CARNAGE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT HIM

10. Cries at weddings
9. Loves soap operas.
8. Bakes a dynamite cheesecake.
7. Knows names of all Menudo members.
6. Can't water ski
5. Hates the color red.
4. Doesn't floss.
3. Still has his old report cards.
2. Liked "Rocky V" the best.

And the number one thing Carnage doesn't want you to know about him:

1. Can't spell "symbiote."

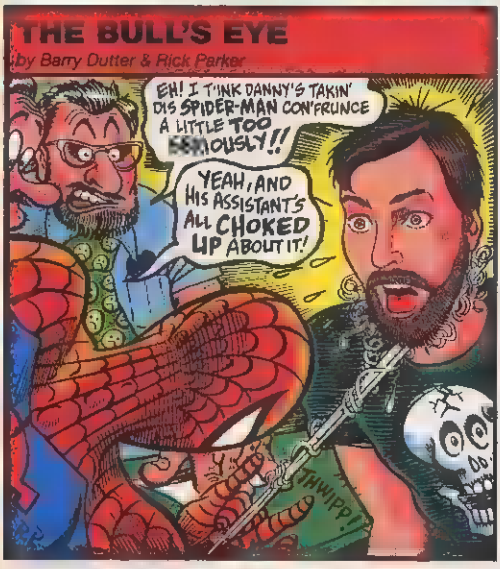
See ya in the funny papers,

DANNY

Danny Fingeroth

His old TV theme song says that Spider-Man can do whatever a spider can...but we know for a fact that he can't lay eggs, and he can't shoot webs from his butt, no matter how hard he tries.

Another thing the webbed wonder can't do is attend the semi-annual Spider-Summit here in Manhattan at the Mark (no relation to Bagley) Hotel; that radioactive little event is attended exclusively by creators of the Spidey titles. The most recent summit was held this past March, and attended by spider-writers only; another will be held this fall, which both writers and artists are invited to attend. (No Jonah Jamesons allowed!)


THE BULL'S EYE
by Barry Dutter & Rick Parker
EH! I THINK DANNY'S TAKIN' DIS SPIDER-MAN CONFRUNCE A LITTLE TOO SERIOUSLY!!
YEAH, AND HIS ASSISTANTS ALL CHOKED UP ABOUT IT!
THWIPP!

Assistant editor Mike **Lackey** described the March Web-Fest as being "very, very spidery," but then, Mike's got webs on the brain. Group Editor **Danny Fingeroth,** who's just full of Venom these days, presided over the whole affair, ruling wisely over his Kingdom of the Spiders (not to be confused with the 1977 William Shatner flick of the same name).

Spinning Spidey's webs was an all-star cast of tale-spinners: **David** "AMAZING" **Michelinie** (rhymes with "Tickle my bee"), **Steven** "SPECTACULAR" **Grant** (rhymes with "U Thant"), who will be your friendly neighborhood writer for that title beginning with issue #204, **Howard** "ADJECTIVELESS" **Mackie** (rhymes with "Perquackey"), who debuts as regular writer on SPIDER-MAN with issue #44, and **Tom** "UNLIMITED" **DeFalco** (rhymes with "Norelco"). Together, these arach-nerds hatched a passel of new plot threads in which to entangle our walloping web-snapper.

After the sensational resolution of the current "Maximum Carnage" storyline, the main thread to be untangled (are you getting tired of these clever "web" references as are?) is the mystery regarding Peter Parker's parents. Are they clones? Are they mutants? Or are they really Peter's parents? The answer is more mysterious than that fishbowl on Mysterio's head! Your spider-sense should be tingling for the resolution of that storyline around AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #390.

Danny plans on spewing even more Venom, as the psychopathic symbiote gets a trio of new limited series in '93. The first, beginning next month, is VENOM: FUNERAL PYRE By **Carl Potts, Tom Lyle** (who becomes the new regular penciler of ADJECTIVELESS with issue #44), and **Joe Rubinstein.** The second, featuring Venom vs. the Juggernaut, is by **Ann Nocenti, Kelley Jones,** and **John Beatty.** After that is one by **Howard Mackie, Ron Lim,** and **Al Milgrom** featuring the V-Man against Ghost Rider!

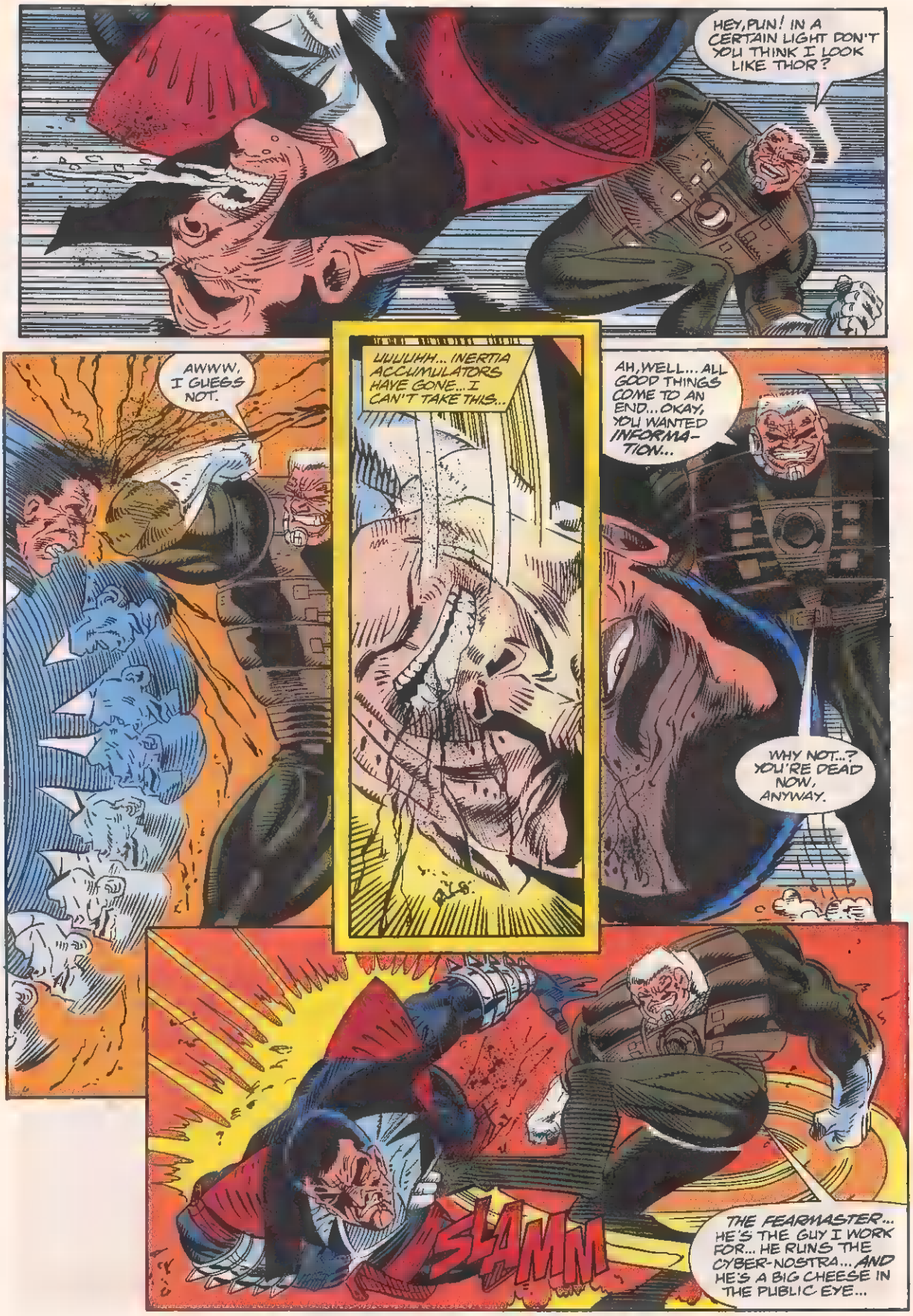
Danny promises a resolution to the Mary Jane Watson smoking plotline "which will leave readers coughing for more!" Secrets of Doc Ock's past will be revealed in UNLIMITED #3, the master villain returns more powerful than ever. And the characters introduced in this year's Spidey annuals will be back for more Spider-ific action.

In summing up the plans for the Spidey books, Danny said, "We're going to make the new Brand Ecchs look like they're standing still!" And assistant editor Mike, who never lets his web-shooters clog, concluded his thoughts on the summit by saying, "I got free lunch for two days!"

Face it, tigers — you've just hit the web-slinging jackpot!

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **AKIRA #34:** It's back! It's monthly! Believe it!
- ☐ **BARBIE FASHION #31:** Remember Midge's slumber party?
- ☐ **BLACK AXE #4:** B.A. enters the tomb of doom!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #9: Calypso** summons the **Devourer!**
- ☐ **DEATH'S HEAD 2 #6:** Do you think Death's Head 2 can beat the Wizard Methinx?
- ☐ **DEATHLOK #25:** A double-bubble sized issue with **Moses Magnum** and the **Black Panther!**
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #7:** The best thing to come out of Britain since Boy George!
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #55:** Doc becomes an evil follower of **Dormammu!** It's just like WHAT IF!
- ☐ **DRAGON LINES #3 of 4:** When the **Spirit Boxer** attacks the **Monkey King,** hold on to your boxer short!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #378:** With four fantastic guest-stars!
- ☐ **FEUD #1 of 4:** The feud begins!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER/BLAZE: SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #12:** Glow-in-the-dark cover and a new *logo!*
- ☐ **HELLSTORM #4:** When Hellstorm meets **Soulfire,** it's too hot to handle!
- ☐ **THE INFINITY CRUSADE #2 of 6:** Peace breaks out on Earth! No, that's not a misprint!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #294:** Outer space action!
- ☐ **LAWDOG #3:** Watch Lawdog take a bite out of crime!
- ☐ **MARVEL COMICS #133:** With the writing talents of Tony Matias, Chuck Kim, and Karl Bollers, you can't go wrong!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT HEAVY HITTERS #3:** This one will hit you like a cannonball!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT:** Take one! They're free!
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE MASTER EDITION #32:** The facts you can't live without!
- ☐ **METEOR MAN #3 of 6:** Spidey guest-stars! This wasn't in the *movie!*
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #52:** It's full-moon fury with the **Werewolf** and **Gambit!**
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #82:** The 1968 Battle of Tet continues!
- ☐ **NEW WARRIORS #37:** Rage is enraged when someone kills his granny!
- ☐ **PUNISHER 2099 #6:** Beginning the **Techno-Gladiators** saga!
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #56:** Punisher's new battle armor will amaze even Eliot R. Brown!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #82:** Cosmic-sized issue with guest stars out the wazoo!
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #202:** Spidey and **Venom** — side by side, and at each other's throats!
- ☐ **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #11:** If Capt. Kirk met T.J. Hooker...
- ☐ **TERROR, INC. #13:** Who's the big-name guest-star this month ... Why, it's **Ghost Rider!**
- ☐ **THOR #464:** Infinity Crusade cross-over!
- ☐ **JOE KUBERT'S TOR #2 of 4:** Tor tested by tribe — film at 11!
- ☐ **U.S. AGENT #2 of 4:** The Agent gets **Scourged!**
- ☐ **VENOM #6 of 6:** Spidey & Venom plan to cut down **Treece!**
- ☐ **WARHEADS #14:** Final issue!
- ☐ **X-FORCE #24: Domino** and **Six-Pack** show up!
- ☐ **X-MEN CLASSIC #85:** With **Sunfire** and a dragon in Tokyo!

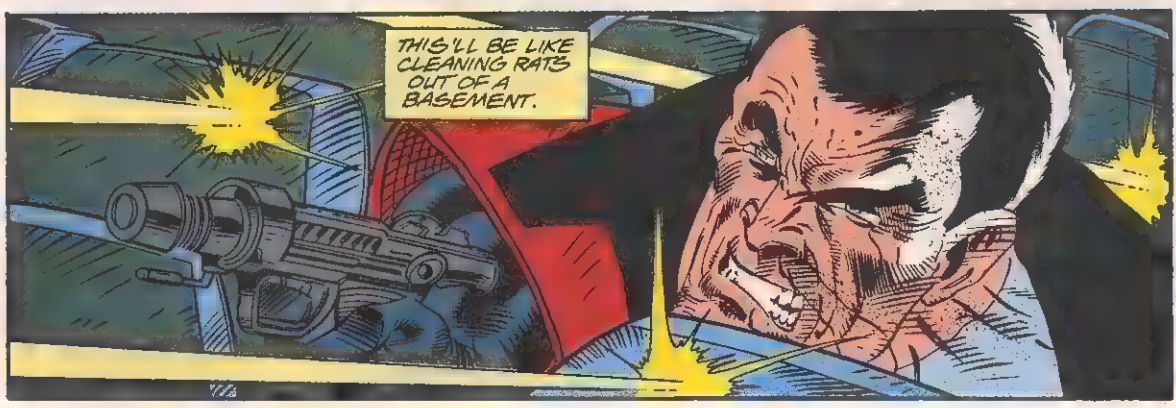

HEY, PUN! IN A CERTAIN LIGHT DON'T YOU THINK I LOOK LIKE THOR?
AWWW, I GUESS NOT.
UUUUHH... INERTIA ACCUMULATORS HAVE GONE... I CAN'T TAKE THIS...
AH, WELL... ALL GOOD THINGS COME TO AN END... OKAY, YOU WANTED INFORMATION...
WHY NOT...? YOU'RE DEAD NOW, ANYWAY.
SLAMM
THE FEARMASTER... HE'S THE GUY I WORK FOR... HE RUNS THE CYBER-NOSTRA... AND HE'S A BIG CHEESE IN THE PUBLIC EYE...

DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER TO KNOW THAT AS YOU DIE...?
JAKE! LISTEN TO ME! THE SUPER-DRIVER-- IT'S A CYBORG SUPER-DRIVER!
PROBABLY NOT. THIS PUNISHER JERK STILL BELIEVES IN JUSTICE... LAW AND ORDER... JUNK LIKE THAT.
HAW, HAW, HAWW!
JAKE! CAN YOU HEAR ME? HIS BODY CAN'T SURVIVE CONTACT WITH THE SUPER-DRIVER! JAKE!
WAVES OF BLACK ENGULFING ME... I'M GOING DOWN... BUT.. THEY'RE RIGHT.. I STILL BEL[illegible]E...
FORGIVE ME FOR WALLOWING IN THIS MOMENT... BUT IT'S NOT OFTEN I GET TO KILL A REALLY GOOD GUY...
YOU SEE, I'M AFRAID PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE NO LONGER RELEVANT...
YOU'RE A THROWBACK TO SOME BYGONE AGE OF SUPER HEROES... YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

I'M SORRY ABOUT THE LASER GUN. I'D PREFER TO BEAT YOU TO DEATH...
...BUT THE FEARMASTER WANTS YOUR HEAD.. SO I'VE GOT TO DO A LITTLE...GUN SURGERY.
JAKE! NOW! NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!
KEEP TALKING, CREEP..JUST GIVE ME TWO MORE SECONDS OF LIFE...
...LONG ENOUGH FOR A KUNG FU JAB TO HIS POWER PACK...
...DRIVE IT INTO YOUR BODY.
WH...?
ONCE THE DRIVER COMES IN CONTACT WITH YOUR FLESH... IT SIMPLY DUMPS ITS LOAD--IN ONE SECOND.
EVERY MUSCLE AND TENDON BECOMES SUPERCHARGED... YOUR HEARTBEAT IS QUADRUPLED...

GRAAAAGH!
"THE SIMPLEST TWITCH IS AMPLIFIED INTO A... BODY-QUAKE.
NOT EVEN THE FAMOUS MULTI-FRACTOR CAN TAKE THAT KIND OF PUNISHMENT.

SHOCK! LOOK'T THAT...
HE'S KILLED MULTI-FRACTOR!
GONNA HAVE TO TAKE HIM OUT, OFFICERS!
MULTI-FRACTOR'S LASER...HE WON'T BE NEEDING IT ANYMORE--AND I'VE A FEELING I'M ABOUT TO..
IF THE COPS ARE RIGHT AND THERE IS NO JUSTICE... THEN I WON'T GIVE THEM ANY.
THERE'S JUST ENOUGH JUICE LEFT IN THIS SUIT FOR ONE LAST ALMIGHTY LEAP...
MMM... GUKE'S ALGAE DOGS NOTHIN'S LIKE IT!!
CORRUPT COPS DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE.

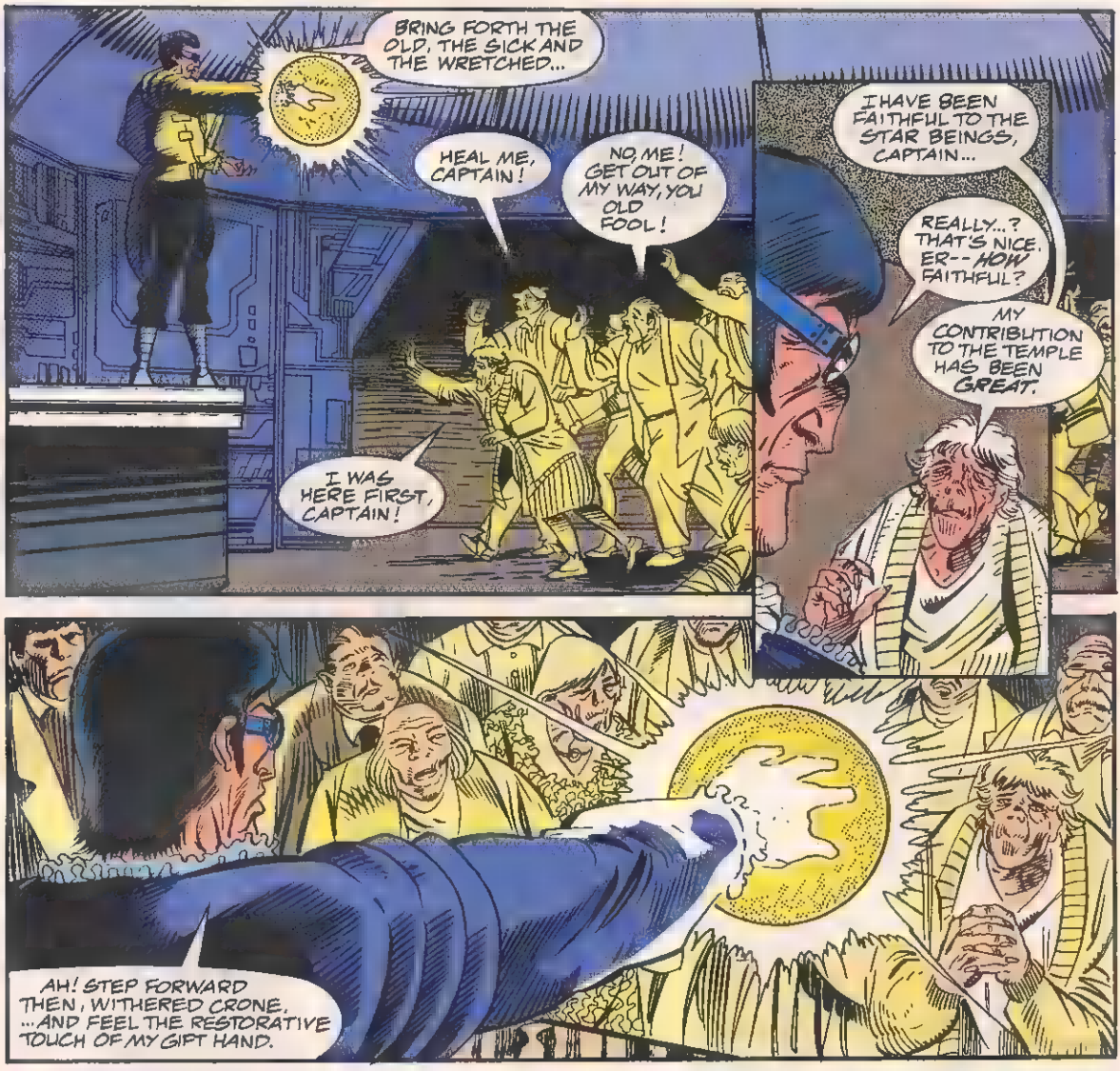

THIS'LL BE LIKE CLEANING RATS OUT OF A BASEMENT.

BUT WHO AM I FOOLING...? I JUST CAN'T... CAN'T DO IT...
CAN'T SHOOT THE UNIFORM... THAT I'VE WORN AND MY FATHER AND BROTHER BEFORE ME.
EVEN IF IT COSTS ME MY LIFE, I JUST CAN'T KILL A COP.
I DON'T HAVE THAT PROBLEM, JAKE... I'M GOING TO SYSTEM OVERRIDE...
WHZZZZZZ
WH...? MY ARM! NO, MATT! NO!
JAKE--SHUT UP.. I'M SAVING YOUR STUPID LIFE!

MATT'S CONTROLLING THE GUN...
CAN'T...
CAN'T STOP PULLING THE TRIGGER...
PLEASE, MATT, NO! IT'S AGAINST EVERYTHING I BELIEVE...!
MMM... CAN'T BEAT THE SUIT... DON'T WANT TO DO...
...THIS!

I'VE JUST GONE AGAINST EVERYTHING I USED TO BELIEVE.
I CAN'T BLAME MATT, BECAUSE IN MY HEART OF HEARTS, IT'S WHAT I REALLY WANTED TO DO...
I SHOULD HAVE FOUGHT HARDER.
THERE'S BLOOD ON MY HANDS...
VISITOR
HOME
THE BLOOD OF COPS...
COLLEAGUES.
I'VE CROSSED THE LINE NOW...
I'M A COP KILLER.
BUT THERE'S ONE MAN WHO IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS...
FEARMASTER...! WHOEVER YOU ARE...! ONE DAY I'LL FIND YOU... AND YOU'LL BE PUNISHED!

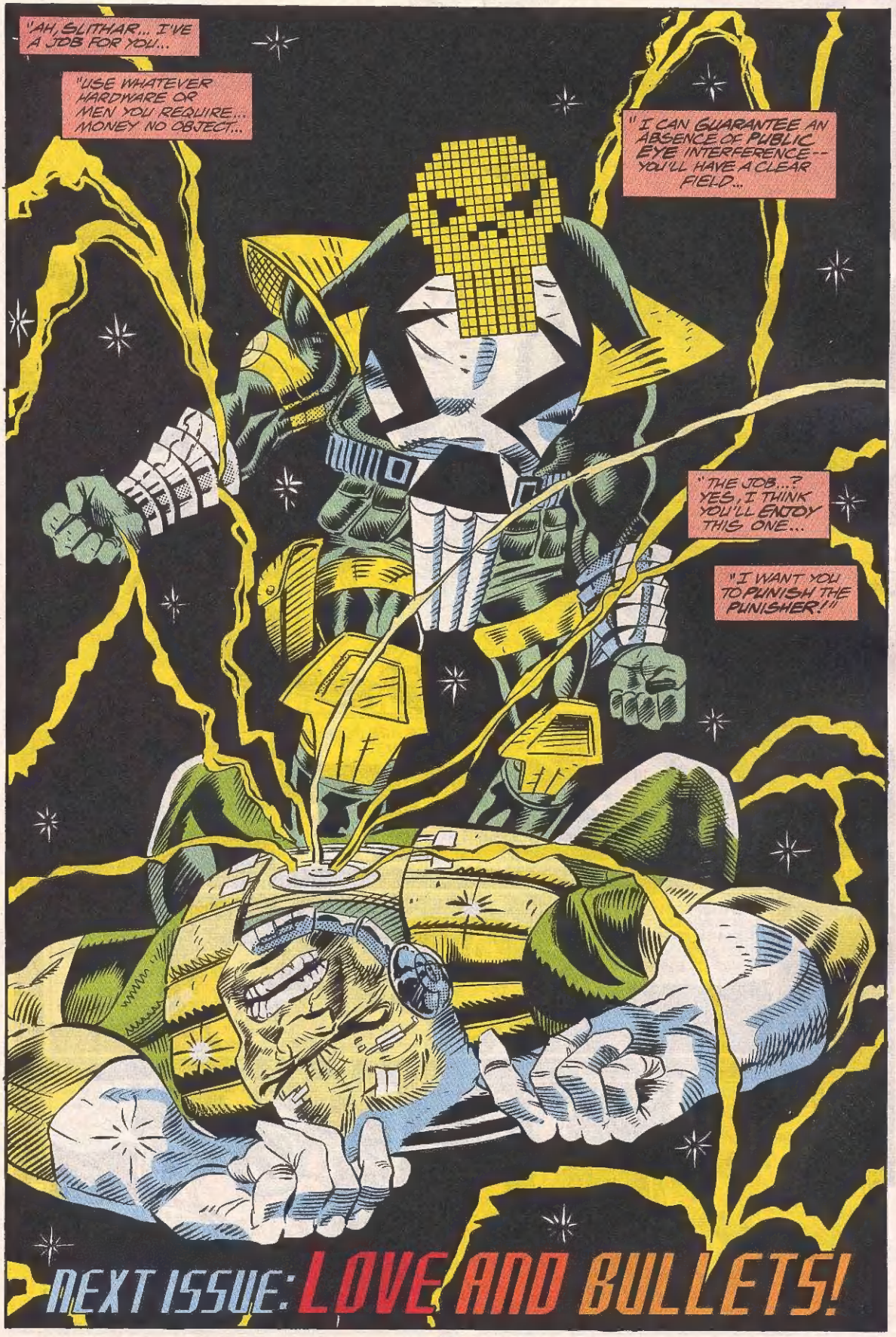
Temple Of The Identified Flying Object
SUNDAY SERVICE WITH DARRYL KING, FOURTH ENCOUNTERIST, TEMPLE CAPTAIN
MY FELLOW STARWATCHERS... WE WHO AWAIT THE COMING OF THE CRYSTAL BEINGS FROM BEYOND THIS GALAXY...
...TUNE YOUR MINDS AND CALIBRATE YOUR SPIRITS TO THEIR PSYCHIC RESONANCE...
WORSHIP THEM--YES. HONOR THEM--YES. LOVE THEM--CERTAINLY. BUT ABOVE ALL...
...FEAR THEM.
FOR PERFECT LOVE IS FEAR.
AND NOW, FRIENDS, AS A FOURTH ENCOUNTERIST--ONE WHO HAS INTERFACED PHYSICALLY WITH THE STAR BEINGS, LET ME, AS THEIR FAITHFUL CONDUIT, TRANSMIT THEIR GIFTS TO YOU...


BRING FORTH THE OLD, THE SICK AND THE WRETCHED...
HEAL ME, CAPTAIN!
NO, ME! GET OUT OF MY WAY, YOU OLD FOOL!
I WAS HERE FIRST, CAPTAIN!
I HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL TO THE STAR BEINGS, CAPTAIN...
REALLY...? THAT'S NICE. ER--HOW FAITHFUL?
MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE TEMPLE HAS BEEN GREAT.
AH! STEP FORWARD THEN, WITHERED CRONE, ...AND FEEL THE RESTORATIVE TOUCH OF MY GIFT HAND.

" FEEL THE LIGHT... FEEL THE LOVE...
"FEEL WHAT IT'S DOING FOR YOU... FEEL HOW THE CELLS AND MOLECULES IN YOUR BODY ARE CHANGING...
"OLD FLESH TURNING TO SUPPLE YOUTH."

RETURN JOYFULLY TO YOUR SEAT... YOUNG WOMAN.
...YOU CAN REPAY MY KINDNESS LATER... IN THE COMFORT OF MY QUARTERS HERE.
BENNELLI, THE PUBLIC EYE COMMISSIONER IS WAITING IN YOUR ROOM, FEARMASTER...
BY THE WAY, THAT WAS A REALLY IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY... IS THE EFFECT PERMANENT...?
NOT IN HER CASE. IN FIVE YEARS TIME, SHE'LL BE A TURKEY-NECKED OLD HAG AGAIN... SHE'LL COME BACK BEGGING.
COMMISSIONER BENNET! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE...?
THE NAME'S BENNELLI, SIR.
I ASKED YOU WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?
WELL, SIR... THREE OF MY OFFICERS WERE GUNNED DOWN BY THE PUNISHER.
COP KILLER NOW, IS HE? ANYWAY, SO WHAT?
AND THE UNDER-CAPO OF THE CYBER-NOSTRA, MULTI-FRACTOR... HE WAS KILLED WITH THEM.
I SEE. TELL ME THE DETAILS.

I'VE A HOLO-DISC HERE... IT HAPPENED IN THE GRAV-BALL STADIUM--
PUT IT ON... I'D LIKE TO SEE HOW HE TOOK OUT MULTI-FRACTOR. WE ALL THOUGHT THE MAN WAS INDESTRUCTIBLE.
THE AUTOCAMS CAUGHT IT... WE STILL HAVEN'T CRACKED HIS FACE SCRAMBLER.
IT SEEMS THE PUNISHER IS MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THE PUBLIC EYE.
THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT. MY MEN WERE SKY GRUNTS... SAW TROUBLE AND CAME FLYING DOWN. THEY WEREN'T PREPARED. THEY--
YOUR EXCUSES ARE BEGINNING TO TIRE ME, BENNET.
IT'S BENNELLI, SIR.
SHUT UP! I'M BRINGING IN A SPECIAL TEAM-- THE NINJA NOSTRA-- THEY SPECIALIZE IN BEING PREPARED...
NO! NO, FEARMASTER, YOU CAN'T... THEY'RE UNDERWORLD CRIMINALS!
I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP...
I'LL HAVE SLITHAR LEAD THEM... HE'S THE MAN FOR THE JOB... NOW, BE SILENT WHILE I MAKE THIS CALL...!


"AH, SLITHAR... I'VE A JOB FOR YOU...
"USE WHATEVER HARDWARE OR MEN YOU REQUIRE... MONEY NO OBJECT...
"I CAN GUARANTEE AN ABSENCE OF PUBLIC EYE INTERFERENCE-- YOU'LL HAVE A CLEAR FIELD...
"THE JOB...? YES, I THINK YOU'LL ENJOY THIS ONE...
"I WANT YOU TO PUNISH THE PUNISHER!"
NEXT ISSUE: LOVE AND BULLETS!

TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavalieri, Editor • Sarra Mossoff, Assistant Editor

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All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

OUT OF MY HEAD

The band Green Jello just changed its name last month to Green Jelly. All right, the republic still stands, the flag still flies, but if we glean anything from this, we learn that change of any kind is unpredictable and inevitable.

Our humble 2099 office is not exempt from change either. I'm pleased and proud to announce that Sarra Mossoff, the assistant editor on these books since their breathtaking beginnings, has been promoted to associate editor, a move that's as well-deserved as it is long overdue. She'll be getting a book of her own to edit, so her mail will start with "Dear Sarra..." for a change.

Joining us here in the months to come from the Universe Next Door is Matt Morra, who's been assisting Bobbie Chase in bringing you GHOST RIDER, THE HULK and a host of others.

Congratulations are in order all around. So write!

Dear *Target Practice*,

I've read the first three issues of PUNISHER 2099 and all I have to say is wow! I used to go to the local comic shop and grab an issue of DARKHAWK. I still do, but I also get PUNISHER 2099.

Everything about this comic series is great, but this guy Jake Gallows is too soft on crime. Let me explain. Frank Castle would never let a guy live who he felt was guilty, not even in prison. He would shoot them, let them bleed a bit, then finish them off. Please think about that for future issues. Also, what's with the major symbol alterations? The skull has lightning bolts for eyes.

Issue #1's metallic cover was great, the plotlines are exciting and Jake's weapons are terrific. This series is the best!

Well, until the Punisher trades in his arsenal for a copy of TV Guide, I'll be following this character.

Bryce Dunlop
353 Renaudline Belle River, Ont.
Canada, N0R1A0

Jake's definitely cut from a different (lightning) bolt than his predecessor, as you'll continue to see, Bryce!

Dear *Target Practice*,

PUNISHER 2099 is the best by far! I've got issues #1, #2, #3, and #4 and I'll continue buying them.

The artwork's great and the stories are fantastic! I hope there will be a 2099 Armory. I also hope Frank Castle and Jake Gallows will meet someday. You guys are smart; I'm sure you'll figure something out.

Derek Dawson
104 Read Ave.
Coventry, RI 02816

Derek, as far as we can tell, Mr. Castle has no time machine in his armory, but if it's team-ups you want, the big crossover this December should do the trick!

Dear Punishers of 2099,

Since issue #1, I've noticed that Jake Gallows is a little bit like Frank Castle. I mean, Jake's family was murdered by a gang of criminals, while Frank's family was wiped out by some mobsters. Otherwise, they're a century apart!

It's interesting to see a different Punisher every once in a while! Because after a while, you do get kind of tired of Frank Castle being Punisher all the time! I'd like to mention that you've had some awesome covers and a good storyline for his family's death.

Will Willman
11636 Cherry
Kansas City, MO 64131

The similarities are what inspired Jake, Will! But still, Jake's a different guy and we hope you see the development of his personality in future issues!

Dear *Target Practice*,

I have to be one of the Punisher's greatest fans. I'm sticking with him through WAR JOURNAL, WAR ZONE, and all of his special collections. Being such a fan, I've certainly noticed his new 2099 series. I'm amazed at this new character, Jake Gallows. He's just as brutal and gruesome as Frank Castle, maybe more so. One question: how did Frank Castle die?

You should print a special collector's edition that tells if Frank died in battle or just of natural causes. I'm not saying you should kill off all of the regular PUNISHER titles, but just a story that shows how he dies. Thanks.

Ben Caovette
807 Pleasant Hill Rd.
Brunswick, ME 04011

Don'tcha think if we printed that story it would be a bit of a bummer for the present-day Punisher, Ben?

Yo *Target Practice*,

Wake up and get some new ideas. I've bought some PUNISHER, WAR JOURNAL, and WAR ZONE, but lose the tired old story. It just so happens that Jake Gallows finds Frank Castle's journal and then Gallows' family gets killed? Come on! The 2099 Punisher now wants three things: revenge, more guns, and to be left alone.

To put it nicely, this guy is totally crazy. The weird thing is, I love him. I love his life on the edge all the time. Whoever thought up all his cool weapons, keep it up, they're great! I've got to say, Make Mine Marvel!

David Martinez
4446 Roosevelt St.
Chino, CA 91710

Tony Skinner takes a special pride in inventing newer and better weapons for Jake's arsenal, as you'll see in the coming months, Dave!

Dear *Target Practice*,

I love the PUNISHER 2099 and I've never missed an ish. Now that Fearmaster's power is revealed, I'm happy. I have some suggestions:

You should make a Kingpin 2099. I'm not used to all the new villains yet.

Team up Ravage and Punisher 2099! It'd be great!

Make Frank Castle break in to Four Freedoms Plaza and use the time transporter.

Until the Punisher uses a pop gun, Make Mine Marvel.

Jim Lechase
(Address withheld by request)

For the most part, we prefer creating new stuff to relying on the past, Jim. Marvel doesn't like to rest on its laurels.

As for the team-up, everybody in 2099 fights alongside everybody else in the 2099 crossover, "The Fall of the Hammer," at the end of this year! And Castle's a nasty guy...but stealing from Reed Richards...?

Dear Joey and Sarra,

PUNISHER 2099 #4 was very good. I hope you're still planning for more 2099 characters because I already bought three from your regular selections: SPIDER-MAN, RAVAGE and PUNISHER.

I enjoy Punisher the best because he is more clever and brutal than the others. I hope the good stories will continue. Until next time, Make Mine 2099!

Vince Rod Katindoy
#47 Sgt. Catolos St. Cubao
Q.C. Philippines 1111

How about the Hulk 2099 in 2099 UNLIMITED...and X-MEN 2099 this August, Vince?

NEXT ISSUE: The start of a trilogy of tales entitled "Love and Bullets!" Don't be deceived by the title...it's everything you've asked for in your letters...and more!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #10 You think swinging around the New York of 2099 is a lot of laughs, huh? Miguel (and Peter and Rick and Al) show us what it's like behind the mask!

RAVAGE 2099 #8 Our hero shows up back at his old boss Henton's office, and not to pick up his severance pay, either! "Sky Above, Death Below!" is the title, and unemployment was never like this!

DOOM 2099 #7 "A Region of Ether and Sighs" is a poetic way to describe cyberce, but nothing's poetic about the fate of Doom and Wire at the hands of the fanatical Fever!